

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<p>5     In re Application of: Birk et al.</p> <p>     Application No.: 10/562,954</p> <p>     Filing Date: December 30, 2005</p> <p>10    For: IMPLANTABLE DEVICE FASTENING        SYSTEM AND METHODS OF USE</p> <hr/> <p>15    Mail Stop AMENDMENT        Commissioner for Patents        P.O. Box 1450        Alexandria, VA 23213-1450</p>	<p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)</p>	<p>Group Art Unit: 3733</p> <p>Examiner: Elana Beth Fisher</p> <p>Confirmation No.: 8688</p> <p><b>Customer No.: 51957</b></p>
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(c)(1)

Dear Sir:

20     Attached is a PTO/SB/08a form listing certain references in accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, each item of which was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months ago. Therefore, under 37 CFR §1.97(c)(1), no fee is due. Also attached is a copy of any non-U.S. patent publication, and a concise statement of relevance or translation of any non-English language document.

25     By submitting this Statement, Applicants make no admission that any item listed thereon is material to the patentability of the invention claimed in the above-reference application. Further, Applicants make no assertion that a search was conducted, or if conducted, that any search was thorough.

Respectfully submitted,

<p>30     Date: January 22, 2010</p>	<p><u>/Guy Cumberbatch, Reg. No. 36,114/</u> Guy Cumberbatch, Reg. No. 36,114 (805) 201-3006</p>
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